

Application Serial No. 10/675,322
Reply to March 27, 2006 Office Action

Docket No. 1232-5166

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 and 4-18 are currently pending. Please amend claim 1 and add new claim 19 as follows. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing Of Claims

1. (currently amended) An image forming apparatus, comprising:
a battery for driving the image forming apparatus; and
charging means for charging the battery, wherein the image forming apparatus is containable in a separate container stand as a place stand, and the battery is charged by containing the image forming apparatus in the container stand when not used, and wherein the battery is chargeable if the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a predetermined direction or in a direction opposite to the predetermined direction;
~~wherein said battery is incorporated in said image forming apparatus, and said charging means is incorporated in said container stand, and said battery is charged when said image forming apparatus is contained in said container stand;~~
wherein the image forming apparatus has a plurality of contact point portions and the container stand has a plurality of contact terminal portions; and
wherein each of the contact point portions is in contact with each of the contact terminal portions in a predetermined combination to charge the battery when the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a predetermined direction, and each of the contact point portions is in contact with each of the contact terminal portions in a combination other than the predetermined combination to charge the battery when the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a direction different from the predetermined direction.

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2.-3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said battery and said charging means are incorporated in a charging device structured to be attachable to and detachable from said image forming apparatus, and the charging of said battery is conducted by containing in said container stand said charging device in the status of being mounted on said image forming apparatus.
5. (previously presented) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein on the backside of said charging device, the contact point portion is provided, and the contact terminal portion is provided for said container stand, and said contact point portion and said contact terminal portion are electrically connected by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.
6. (previously presented) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the contact point portion of said charging device, and said contact terminal portion of said container stand are arranged in the central portion of the connecting surface of said charging device and said container stand, respectively, and are in a symmetrical mode.
7. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said cradle is provided with a shutter mechanism for protecting said contact terminal portion, and said shutter mechanism retracts by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.
8. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 7, wherein the load required for pressurizing said contact terminal portion to be in contact and retracting said shutter

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mechanism is smaller than the weight of said charging device alone.

9. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 4, wherein said charging device is provided with a portion to hide the DC jack for input use for said image forming apparatus, and when said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon is contained in said container stand, the structural portion of said container stand covers said jack for DC input use of said charging device.
10. (canceled)
11. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein on the backside of said image forming apparatus the contact point portion is provided, and the contact terminal portion is provided for said container stand, and said contact point portion and said contact terminal portion are electrically connected by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.
12. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the contact point portion of said image forming apparatus and said contact terminal portion of said container stand are arranged in the central portion of the connecting surface of said charging device and said container stand, respectively, and are in a symmetrical mode.
13. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said container stand is provided with a shutter mechanism for protecting said contact terminal portion, and said shutter mechanism retracts by containing said image forming apparatus having said charging device mounted thereon in said container stand.
14. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein the load required for pressurizing said contact terminal portion to be in contact and retracting said shutter

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mechanism is smaller than the weight of said image forming apparatus.

15. (previously presented) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein either said charging device or said image forming apparatus is provided with indication means for showing the charging condition of said battery, and said indication means is structured to be recognizable even when said image forming apparatus is contained in said container stand.
16. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said indication means for showing the charging condition of the battery is recognizable even when said image forming apparatus is contained in said container stand in any direction, forward or backward, and said contact point portion and said contact terminal portion are electrically connectable.
17. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein a recording sheet supply tray dually functioning as a cover capable of being open and closed with respect to said image forming apparatus is structured not to open when said image forming apparatus is contained in said container stand.
18. (original) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said image forming apparatus can be contained in said container stand in the status having an I/P cable connected thereto.
19. (new) An image forming apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said battery is incorporated in said image forming apparatus, and said charging means is incorporated in said container stand, and said battery is charged when said image forming apparatus is contained in said container stand.